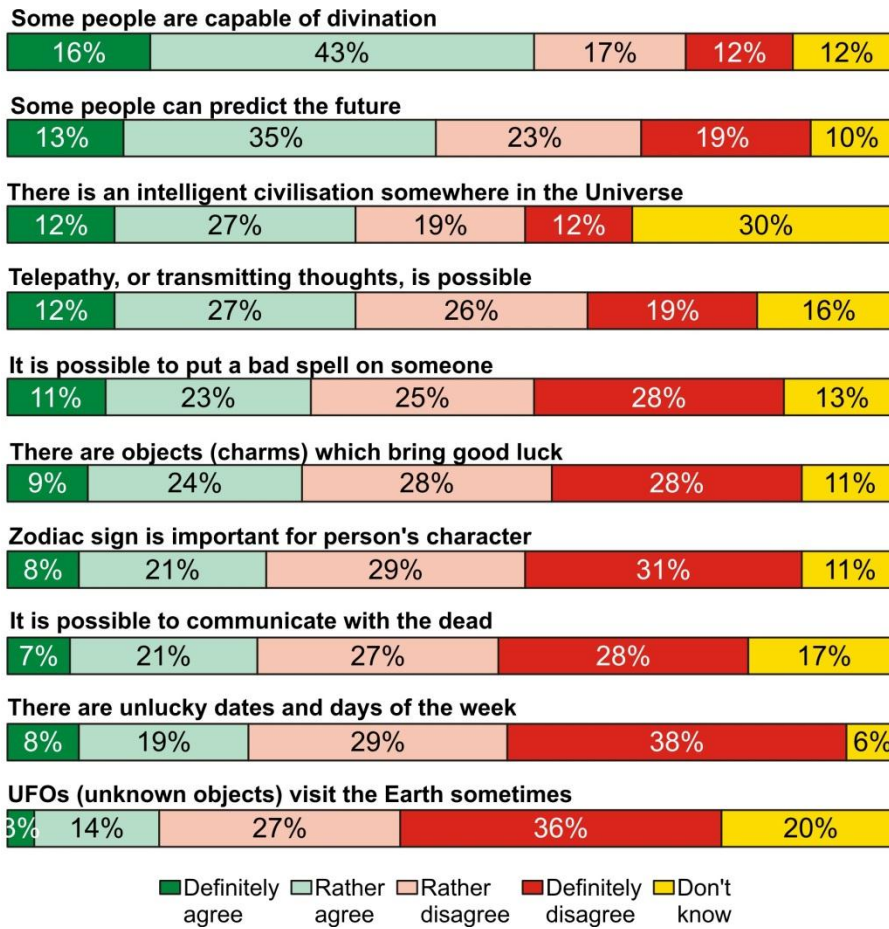


## **NEW AGE**

The past 20 years in Poland have been a period of change connected with the rapid economic and social development. In this period, Poles were more than in previous times oriented towards education, which was reflected in a marked increase in the number of university graduates. It is a society, on the one hand, quite highly educated, and, on the other hand, still very attached to the Catholic church: 95% consider themselves as Roman Catholics, 92% are believers, more than half participate in religious practices regularly (at least once a week). Views associated with the New Age thinking are quite popular, in spite of contradicting the Catholic spirituality.

Three-fifths of adult Poles think that some people are capable of divination. Almost half of Poles (48%) are convinced that there are people able to predict the future. Two-fifths (39%) think that there is an intelligent civilisation somewhere in the Universe. A similar group (39%) believe in telepathy. One-third think it is possible to put a bad spell on someone (34%), and that some objects bring good luck (33%). More than a quarter think that the Zodiac sign is important for a person (29%), that there are unlucky dates and days of the week (27%), and that it is possible to communicate with the dead (28%). Less widespread is the belief in UFOs: one-sixth of respondents think that flying saucers and other unknown objects visit the earth sometimes.

## DO YOU AGREE WITH THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS?



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Attitudes to New Age views", October 2011. Fieldwork for national sample: September 2010, N=1077. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.